

Pilgrim Center - UCCI

Green Lake, WI

Green Tier Annual Report 2015



Executive Summary:

We have continued to move forward on the implementation of our EMS plan. The main focus of this year's efforts include improvement in our composting, development of new educational opportunities, reduction in energy usage, and shoreline restoration.

Description of Progress:

This year we have replaced over fifty incandescent and CFL bulbs with LEDs. We have insulated two buildings which has resulted in a twenty percent reduction in energy costs for our organization. We also continue to improve our composting methods with introducing worm gardens this year. We continue to compost over 1000 lbs of food waste a year and use that for our butterfly gardens and other plantings in camp. We also had over 1000 hours of invasive species and trail clean up work this year on site.

Hardsurface Run Off and Storm Water – We have rerouted a majority of our gutters and are working with Green Lake County on implementing a Storm Water Management Plan to be used for future capital projects. We installed a rain barrel irrigation system this year on our butterfly garden and used that as a demonstration / educational exhibit for our guests.

Shoreline Restoration – We have eliminated our concrete sea wall and installed rip rap under the direction of the DNR. This shoreline restoration was part of our RSVP Project and includes over one thousand native plants to prevent erosion and run off.

Reforestation – We have met with the DNR on reforestation techniques and how to battle invasive species. We will be starting this project in 2016 more aggressively.

Nature Trails and Paths – We have removed a significant portion of the concrete path running parallel to the lakes shore. We will continue to work on the upkeep of our other trails using permeable materials and erosion controls where necessary.

Erosion – The shoreline restoration project was a major step towards the prevention of erosion on our water front and that was completed in 2015.

Invasive Plant and Aquatic Species – We recently had the DNR Forester come to our property and provide us techniques to best control the invasive species which we will be implementing more aggressively in 2016.

DNR Relationship:

Pilgrim Center has been appreciative of the relationship we have with the DNR. Informational bulletins, workshops and contacts have been used and accessed throughout our time with Green Tier 1.

Conclusion:

Pilgrim Center continues to incorporate the steps and responsibilities of being a Green Tier 1 organization. We appreciate the support this program provides.